



Connecticut Business & Industry Association

Testimony Of
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General Law Committee
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My name is Kevin Hennessy. I am a staff attorney for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (hereinafter "CBIA"). CBIA represents approximately 10,000 member companies in virtually every industry. They range from large, global corporations to small, family owned businesses. Approximately 90 percent of our member companies have fewer than 50 employees.

First, CBIA thanks Governor Rell for introducing **Senate Bill 30**, An Act Concerning Consumer Privacy and Identity Theft and the General Law Committee for raising **SB-30**.

According to Connecticut State Police Detective Nick Sabetta, the cost associated with identity theft for businesses is upwards of \$50 billion a year. That figure alone is reason enough for CBIA to want to address the ubiquitous problem of identity theft.

Identity theft is a very serious problem that's affecting individual citizens and business alike, endangering private lives and Connecticut's economy. We believe that **SB-30** will provide much-needed protections and correctly penalize those who would try to misappropriate private information. We appreciate both the Governor's and the General Law Committee's leadership on this important issue facing the state and its economy.

However, there is one section of the bill that could inadvertently cause difficulties for certain businesses in Connecticut, particularly in the financial services and insurance industries. CBIA has already reached out to the Governor's office to indicate our support for the **SB-30** and looks forward to working with the Governor and the General Law Committee to enact meaningful identity theft legislation for Connecticut this year.

Once again, thank you to the Governor and the General Law Committee for championing this critically important issue.